

## BRIGHTWALTON PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting Held Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2023 7.30pm in Brightwalton Village Hall

### Present

Shaun Orpen	Chairman	Sarah Youldon	Clerk
Tim Wyatt	Vice Chair		
Christine Delahunty	Councillor	2 Parishioners till 8pm	
Sue Sayers	Councillor		
Annie Agnew	Councillor	<b>Apologies:</b>	
Mike Cooper	Councillor	Clive Hooker	District Ward Councillor

	Action
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Minutes:</b> The minutes of the November meeting were agreed and signed as an accurate record.</li> <li>▪ <b>Declaration of Interests:</b> None</li> </ul>	Resolved
<b>Open Session</b>	
Issue of rats running across the road near playground, hall and school raised. CD agreed to check with school that there was no food source there.	CD
<b>Planning</b>	
<p><b>23/00043/FUL &amp; 23/00044/LBC</b> Malthouse Cottage, Brightwalton – Section 73: Variation of Condition 3 (Approved Plans) of previously approved application 01/01579/FUL: Proposed extension and replacement garage. Response of No Objection agreed. Applicant gave overview of plans just submitted to replace the greenhouse, shed and add a summer house and gazebo. Plus upgrade windows and replace concrete render with lime. Clerk to circulate application once received.</p> <p><b>22/02618/FUL</b> 4 Ash Close, Brightwalton – change of use and renovation / rebuild of an existing garden store/pool room to a self-contained 1-bedroom dwelling ancillary to the main house. Clerk reported that WBC decision still pending</p>	
<p><b>Event Planning:</b> After much discussion on the proximity of the fete and the Coronation weekend and the pros and cons of moving or combining the two, it was agreed that the Fete should take place as usual on the first bank holiday weekend, 30<sup>th</sup> April, and the Coronation celebration would be held as a separate event on the following weekend. Agreed Coronation would follow a street party theme, similar to the jubilee held last year, this would be on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May at the hall / playing field. SY and one other (tbc) to take lead on planning, with help from all available for the set up. Hall, furniture and gazebos to be booked.</p>	SY CD
<b>Committee Updates</b>	
<p><b>Village Hall Committee:</b> AGM scheduled for 20<sup>th</sup> February, 7.15pm</p> <p><b>PCC, ASPIRE &amp; Community Coordinator:</b> SO reported that coordinator recruitment decision was pending. Further updates to follow on email. Recent ASPIRE meeting agreed to disband the committee, it was reported that after 7 years they had successfully delivered phase 1, fundraised for the Coordinator role and replaced the organ. Nearly 75% of the funds required to complete phase 2 are in place and grants would continue to be sought, this would be managed by a small team going forward.</p> <p>Reverend Miri Keen’s last service will be 5<sup>th</sup> March in Brightwalton with a leaving lunch being organised for after the service in the village hall.</p>	
<b>Matters Arising</b>	
<p><b>Playing Field:</b> Original plan to level the wildflower area the coming weekend cancelled due to the wet weather. Re-scheduled for 11<sup>th</sup> March. Small team needed. Main working party to go ahead in autumn as usual. Complaint of dog fouling on the field received details passed on for reporting to WBC warden team. Agreed that it seems to be a recurring issue following school holidays.</p> <p><b>Highways Update:</b> WBC highways have finally agreed to repair Common Lane, works order awaited. Large pothole reported near the north end of Pudding Lane on Sparrowbill, has already been marked up for repair. Clerk to discuss improving the verge gully cut outs with highways.</p> <p><b>First Aid Training:</b> A certificate in Emergency First Aid at Work course has been booked for the 4<sup>th</sup> March. Cost would be £55 per person. Clerk invoicing attendees, hall booked, notice to go in Brickleton News to advertise the final couple of places.</p> <p><b>Review of Carol Service:</b> £88.82 was raised for the West Berkshire Food Bank, this was paid directly into their account, and £88 paid into the PC account for next years tree. All agreed that this years had been a success and the PC was keen to continue to grow the event. As agreed last meeting, PCC have been asked</p>	SO, MC  SY  SY

Brightwalton Parish Council Clerk – Sarah Youldon

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<p>to let the Yew tree grow, although a long process this would provide a permanent tree to decorate in future years. Addition of hot nibbles agreed for 2023. Costs for mulled wine to come out of the PC general funds. Thank you to Jenny for providing the electricity once again for the tree lights.</p> <p><b>Brickleton News Articles:</b> Carol service write up – TW, Coordinator update – SO, First Aid – SY, highways updates – SY</p>	<p>TW, SO, SY</p>
<p><b>Finance</b></p>	
<p>Current Account £4054.47; Savings Account £7599.11; Community Coordinator Account £13,435.00  Payments / Receipts since the last meeting  21/12 Imprint – BACS November Brickleton News £77.00  28/12 S Youldon Oct-December Clerk Wages £514.90  03/01 £88 paid in and ringfenced for 2023 Christmas Tree  03/01 HMRC Q3 PAYE £128.60  12/01 Weebly Hosting Renewal – 2 years £168.00 – Clerk paid online, money paid back to Clerk  12/01 Arkells mulled wine £120 (exc VAT)  16/01 Cheque from Millennium Green Trust Account written for the PC to transfer the borrowed £100 back to the PC general funds.</p> <p><b>General Budget Decisions:</b>  Agreed to return to requesting a £250 contribution for mowing the playing field from the VHC (this had been waived in 2020 and 2021 due to the lower income through Covid lockdowns). Clerk to ask secretary to put to the VH Committee.  Agreed that the playground mowing would be added to the Scofell contract which is the second year of the 2 year fixed agreement, at a cost of £250 per annum.  Agreed that the £300 set aside for planning guidance would continue to be ringfenced for future requirements.  Increase in Bickleton News print costs approved, £77 will be held until March and then printers to submit new quote. Clerk had obtained comparison quotes which were more that the new price.  Continuation of the £250 annual donation to the PCC for the churchyard upkeep agreed.  Decision on when the Parish Plan should be updated deferred to next meeting.  Clerk explained that the internal auditor David Weller was retiring, but had recommended Jacqui Clack to take over, credentials were reviewed and appointment agreed.</p> <p><b>Precept:</b> Clerk presented draft budget for consideration, general running costs had continued to rise and were expected to be at £7,665 with another £340 set aside for the wildflower planting and telephone box projects. Agreed a 4% increase to the precept was required to meet the running costs. Equating to a precept of £7,753, or £44.15 per year for a Band D house, a £1.70 rise from last year. Agreed that we need to be very aware of rising maintenance costs. It was also noted how much the PC saved by carry out so much maintenance through working parties and Councillors taking on tasks themselves, consideration on how this should continue, considering the limited number of volunteers and time given. Clerk to submit Precept request.</p>	<p>Resolved SY SY</p>
<p><b>Clerk Reports &amp; Any Other Business</b></p>	
<p><b>Climbing Frame:</b> Clerk to pass on thanks to Councillor Clive Hooker for his support on the climbing frame maintenance grant. Work on the frame would be complete this week.  <b>Doctor Surgery Feedback:</b> Geoffery Grayer had requested to represent Brightwalton village at the Downlands Patient Participation Group, his contact details will be published in the next Brickleton News.  <b>WBC Local Plan:</b> The opening WBC Local Plan Consultation is due at the end of January, Clerk explained that this is where we will see the changes WBC are proposing on the development boundaries – additional meeting may be required.</p>	

Meeting closed at 9.35pm

The 2023 Meeting will be held: 13<sup>th</sup> March, 15<sup>th</sup> May, 17<sup>th</sup> July, 11<sup>th</sup> September, 13<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm

Signed: S K Youldon 18<sup>th</sup> January 2023